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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Oppermann *et al.*
SERIAL NO.: 09/754,831 GROUP NO.: 1646
FILING DATE: January 3, 2001 EXAMINER: E. C. Kemmerer
TITLE: NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING OSTEOGENIC
PROTEINS (As Amended)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office action for the above-identified patent application, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 4, 2004. Applicants believe that no petition or fee is required for entry and consideration of this paper. If any petition or fee is required, please consider this a conditional petition for any required extension of time, and a conditional authorization to charge any required fee to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.